

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY

RAJYA SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2765
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.12.2021**

Adoption of private publishers' books instead of NCERT by private schools

2765 Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:

Will the Minister of *Education* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that most of the private schools force their students to read books published by some private publishers instead of NCERT;
- (b) whether NCERT books are very valuable for making careers of the students as well as for preparing for competitive examinations, but some private schools are not adopting these books; and
- (c) if so, whether any action/instructions have been taken/issued by Government to these private schools to use the NCERT books in their schools particularly in primary and secondary schools?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(SMT. ANNPURNA DEVI)**

(a) to (c): In view of plurality of textbooks advocated in National Curriculum Framework 2005, the affiliation bylaws of Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) stipulate that school may prescribe National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) textbooks in the classes and subjects in which these have been published by the NCERT. Extreme care should be taken in the selection of books of private publishers so that there is no objectionable content that hurts the feeling of any class, community, gender, or religious group in society.

The school shall also put a list of prescribed books on its website with the written declaration duly signed by the Manager and the Principal to the effect that they have gone through the contents of the books prescribed by the school and own the responsibility. If a school is found prescribing a book having any objectionable content, the responsibility for such content shall be with the school and action will be initiated against the school by the Board.

CBSE syllabus for classes IX to XII recommends NCERT textbooks wherever available and CBSE has also issued a detailed circular No. 04/2013 dated 14th May, 2013 regarding textbooks for classes' I-VIII in May, 2013. CBSE issues advisories to schools from time to time about not to force parents to buy additional textbooks and follow the guidelines laid down by the Board in this regard vide Circular No(s). Acad.41/2015 dated July 20, 2015; Acad.13/2016 dated April 12, 2016; and Circular(Aff).08/2018 dated June 21, 2018. These circulars are also available on CBSE website: www.cbse.nic.in
